AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-9. (canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) An interface for reducing mechanical vibrations, which has a base connection element, a load connection element and at least one support element,
a) wherein at least a first energy converter system extends between at least one engagement point located on the base connection element and at least one engagement point located on the load connection element;
b) wherein at least one second energy converter system extends between at least one engagement point located on the support element and at least one engagement point located on the load connection element;
c) wherein the base connection element is connected to the at least one support element by means of at least one elastic pretensioning device for exerting a compressive preload on the first energy converter system and on the second energy converter system;
c1) wherein the pretensioning device is embodied as an elastic pipe which surrounds ~~the~~ said first and second actuator systems; and
d) wherein the load connection element has a part located in an intermediate space between the base connection element and the support element, and a part located outside the intermediate space between the base connection element and the support element.

11. (Previously Presented) The interface as claimed in claim 10, characterized in that the energy converter systems have at least one of the following elements:

a piezoactuator,
a shape memory alloy actuator,
an electrorheological or magnetorheological fluid actuator or fluid damper, or
an electrostrictive or magnetostrictive actuator.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Previously Presented) The interface as claimed in claim 10, characterized in that at least one sensor system for determining travel and/or velocity and/or acceleration and/or force is connected to the load connection element.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Previously Presented) An arrangement for reducing mechanical vibrations, characterized by
an interface as claimed in claim 10,
at least one system which acts as a movement sensor and/or acceleration sensor and/or velocity sensor and/or force sensor, and
an electronic circuit which generates, from a signal of the system which acts as a movement sensor and/or acceleration sensor and/or velocity sensor and/or force sensor, a target function for actuating the energy converter systems of the interface.

16. (Currently Amended) An arrangement for reducing mechanical vibrations, characterized by an interface as claimed in claim ~~15~~ 10, and an electronic circuit for passive or semiactive vibration reduction.

17. (Currently Amended) An arrangement for reducing mechanical vibrations, characterized in that a plurality of interfaces as claimed in claim 10 are connected in series, with ~~in such a way that in each case~~ the base connection element of ~~the~~ each following interface ~~is~~ being connected to the load connection

element of the preceding interface.

18. (Currently Amended) An interface for reducing mechanical vibrations, comprising:
a base connection element having a first part and a second part;
a support element separated from the base connection element by an intermediate space;
a load connection element having a first part and a second part ~~separated from the base connection element by an intermediate space~~, said first part being located in said intermediate space and said second part being located outside of said intermediate space;
a first energy converter system extending between a first engagement point located on the base connection element and a second engagement point located on the load connection element; and
a second energy converter system extending between a third engagement point located on the support element and a fourth engagement point located on the load connection element; and
an elastic pretensioning device connecting the base connection element to the support element ~~in such a way that the elastic pretensioning device exerts a~~ for exerting a compressive preload on the first energy converter system and on the second energy converter system, the pretensioning device being embodied as an elastic pipe which surrounds at least a part of said actuator system.

19. (Previously Presented) An interface as recited in claim 18, characterized in that said first and second energy converter systems include at least one active element selected from the group consisting of
a piezoactuator,
a shape memory alloy actuator,
an electrorheological fluid actuator,
a magnetorheological fluid actuator, a fluid damper,
an electrostrictive actuator, and

a magnetostrictive actuator.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) An interface as recited in claim 18, characterized in that at least one sensor system adapted to determine at least one physical quantity chosen from the group consisting of travel, ~~and/or~~ velocity, ~~and/or~~ acceleration and/~~or~~ force is connected to the load connection element.

22. (Previously Presented) An interface as recited in claim 18, characterized in that at least one of said first and second energy converter systems can convert mechanical energy into electrical energy.

23. (Currently Amended) An arrangement for reducing mechanical vibrations, comprising:
an interface as recited in claim 18,
at least one system which acts as a ~~movement~~ sensor for sensing at least one physical quantity chosen from the group consisting of movement,~~and/or~~ acceleration, ~~sensor and/or~~ velocity, ~~sensor and/or~~ and force ~~sensor~~, and
an electronic circuit which generates, from a signal of said one system, a target function for actuating the energy converter systems of the interface.

24. (Previously Presented) An arrangement for reducing mechanical vibrations, comprising: an interface as recited in claim 23, wherein said electronic circuit cooperates with said energy conversion systems to accomplish passive or semiactive vibration reduction.

25. (Currently Amended) An arrangement for reducing mechanical vibrations, characterized in that a plurality of interfaces as recited in claim 18 are connected, ~~in such a way that in each case~~ and wherein the base connection element of ~~the~~

~~following~~ each interface is connected to the load connection element of ~~the~~ a preceding interface.